

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY AT

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

November 14, 2001

IN RE:

PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF AN
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT
NEGOTIATED BETWEEN UNITED
TELEPHONE-SOUTHEAST, INC. AND
BUSINESS TELECOM, INC.

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) DOCKET NO. 01-00759
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ORDER APPROVING MASTER NETWORK
INTERCONNECTION AND RESALE AGREEMENT

The *Petition* requesting approval of a Master Interconnection and Resale Agreement negotiated between United Telephone-Southeast, Inc. and Business Telecom, Inc. came before the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority") at the October 23, 2001 Authority Conference. The Agreement was filed on August 30, 2001 and came before the Authority pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252.

Based upon the *Petition*, the record in this matter, and the standards for review set forth in 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252, the Directors unanimously approved the Agreement and made the following findings and conclusions:

- 1) The Authority has jurisdiction over public utilities pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-104.
- 2) The Agreement is in the public interest as it provides consumers with alternative sources of telecommunications services within United Telephone-Southeast, Inc.'s service area.
- 3) The Agreement is not discriminatory to telecommunications service providers that are not parties thereto.
- 4) No person or entity has sought to intervene in this docket.

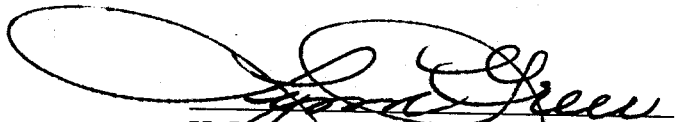
5) The Agreement satisfies the standards for approval of negotiated interconnection agreements set forth in 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252.

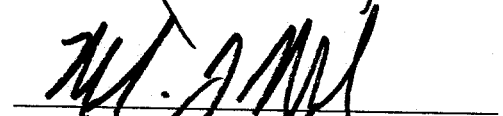
6) The Agreement is reviewable by the Authority pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252 and Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-104 *et seq.*

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:


The Master Interconnection and Resale Agreement negotiated between United Telephone-Southeast, Inc. and Business Telecom, Inc. is approved and is subject to the review of the Authority as provided herein.


Sara Kyle, Chairman


H. Lynn Greer, Jr., Director


Melvin J. Malone, Director

ATTEST:


K. David Waddell, Executive Secretary